

I claim:

1. ~~A combine harvester having:~~

wheels for propelling the combine harvester over the ground;
an engine driving said wheels via a hydrostatic drive system;
a manually operable throttle control having a plurality of positions, each
position corresponding to a desired engine speed level;
a speed modification switch having a first state and a second state; and,
an engine control circuit for controlling the speed of said engine;
said engine control circuit being responsive to said throttle control and
said speed modification switch for selectively controlling said engine to run at a
first speed for a given position of said throttle control when said speed
modification switch is in said first state and to run at a second speed higher than
said first speed when said throttle control is in said given position and said
speed modification switch is in said second state.

2. A combine harvester as claimed in claim 1 wherein said engine control circuit
comprises a programmable microprocessor.

3. A combine harvester as claimed in claim 1 wherein said engine control circuit
comprises a programmable microprocessor having:

means for storing a first table holding work speed values, one work
speed value corresponding to each position of said throttle control, and a second
table holding at least one road speed value greater than any of said work speed
values;

means for accessing a work speed value from said first table when said
speed modification switch is in said first state and accessing a road speed value
from said second table when said speed modification switch is in said second
state; and,

means responsive to an accessed a work speed value or road speed value
for producing an output signal to control said engine to run at the speed

represented by said accessed work speed value or accessed road speed value.

4. A combine harvester as claimed in claim 3 wherein said table of road speed values includes a road speed value corresponding to each position of said throttle control, the road speed value corresponding to a given position of said throttle control being greater than the work speed value corresponding to said given position of said throttle control whereby, for each position of said throttle control, said engine may be selectively controlled to run at a first speed or a second speed higher than said first speed, depending on the state of said speed modification switch.

5. A combine harvester as claimed in claim 3 wherein said output signal controls the rate of fuel flow to said engine.

6. A combine harvester as claimed in 3, further comprising other harvester components including, a threshing, cleaning and separation system powered by said engine, said work speed values being chosen so the output power of said engine does not overload said other harvester components.

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